

Art Unit: 3781

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brandt Madsen (on behalf of Randi Isaacs) on September 29, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been changed to the following:

--1. A sanitary napkin disposal assembly, said assembly including:

a cartridge having an internal storage compartment with an opening at one end, with means for retaining and supporting a bag within the storage compartment; and
a rod;

the assembly having an open position in which the rod is not housed within the storage compartment in which a top surface of the rod is accessible and exposed, and the assembly having a closed position in which the rod is housed within the storage compartment, such that

when a sanitary napkin is disposed of by being placed on the top surface of the rod in the open position, with the bag subsequently unfolding in a longitudinal extending action into the storage compartment, the retaining means captures the sanitary napkin within the bag as the assembly moves to the closed position. --

Claim 2, a period has been added to the end of the last line.

Art Unit: 3781

Claim 5 has been changed to the following:

--5. The sanitary napkin disposal assembly of claim 4 further including a slide-able sleeve mountable around an exterior surface of the cartridge, wherein the sleeve and the cartridge are provided with means for securing and engaging, formed integrally with respective to the sleeve and cartridge. --

Claim 7, line 1, "characterised whereby" has been changed to --wherein --.

Claim 12, last line, "rod" has been changed to -- assembly --.

Claim 19, line 1, "characterised in that" has been changed to --wherein --,
line 3, --and -- has been added after "casing."

Claim 21, line 4, the period has been deleted.

Claim 22, line 1, "64" has been deleted,
last line, "rod" has been changed to --assembly --.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to /Stephen J. Castellano/ whose telephone number is 571-272-4535. The examiner can normally be reached on increased flexibility plan (IFP).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony D. Stashick can be reached on 571-272-4561. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3781

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Stephen J. Castellano/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3781

sjc